



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 25, 2018

CONTACT:

Mayor's Press Office

312.744.3334

press@cityofchicago.org

MAYOR EMANUEL, ALDERMAN TUNNEY, CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT AND THE CHICAGO CUBS OPEN THE NEW PLAYGROUND AT JUNIPER PARK

Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Alderman Tom Tunney and Chicago Park District CEO & Superintendent Michael P. Kelly today joined the Chicago Cubs to open the new playground and spray feature at Juniper Playlot Park, 3652 N. Greenview, in the Lakeview community.

"This is not just a new playground, it is a critical investment in Juniper Park and in the neighborhood to support the future of our children and the future of our city," said Mayor Emanuel. "Together with Alderman Tunney and the Cubs, we are proud to celebrate these state-of-the-art facilities where children and families will come to enjoy myriad of recreational activities."

"It is critical investments like this playground in Juniper Park, and around Lakeview that help to strengthen the social fabric of this community," said Alderman Tom Tunney, 44th Ward. "I look forward to seeing this new playground bustle with children and families for years to come."

The nature themed playground features equipment that will challenge and engage children, including a rotating net climber, a climbing wall and sensory paths with stepping stones and elements made from salvaged trees. Additional features include a water spray and an interactive water table in the sandbox area.

"Neighborhood playgrounds are valuable resources and the centerpiece of childhood recreation," said Chicago Park District General Superintendent and CEO Michael Kelly. "We are pleased to partner with the Chicago Cubs and the community to bring this new amenity to the children and families of Lakeview."

The playground features rubberized surfacing and a sand area offering children a variety of play surfaces. Additional features include a drinking fountain, donor brick pathway, new lighting, picnic tables and landscape improvements. The playground meets or exceeds ADA accessibility guidelines.

The new Juniper Playlot Park playground was funded by through a partnership with the Chicago Park District, Chicago Cubs, M&R Development & Bucksbaum Retail Developers, Alderman Tunney and additional private donations.

Building and rehabilitating playgrounds are a key component of Building on Burnham, Mayor Emanuel's comprehensive plan to invest in the Lakefront, the Chicago River, natural areas and recreational opportunities in neighborhoods across the city. Under the Building on Burnham plan, 985 acres of parks have been acquired and 5.5 miles of waterfront access have been developed with continued plans to acquire additional parkland and further develop the waterfront in the coming years.

###